



Atty. Dkt. No. 016907-1191

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Yoji MATSUDA  
Title: IMAGE FORMING SYSTEM  
Appl. No.: 09/761,777  
Filing Date: 01/18/2001  
Examiner: Unassigned  
Art Unit: 2622

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TL  
4-20-04  
**RECEIVED**

APR 14 2004

Technology Center 2600

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 CFR §1.56**

Mail Stop PATENT APPLICATION  
Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO/SB/08 is a listing of documents known to Applicant in order to comply with Applicant's duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56. A copy of each listed document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicant does not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* art reference against the claims of the present application.

### **TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE**

The listed documents are being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR §1.97(b), before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits.

### **RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT**

In a counterpart Japanese application, a Japanese Office Action issued on February 24, 2004. According to an English translation obtained by Applicants' representative of the Japanese Office Action, the Japanese Patent Office made certain characterizations of the references.

According to the Japanese Office Action, document B1 discloses a system comprising a plurality of apparatuses, in which an outputting condition is set on an image transmitter side, and a set value can be varied on a receiver side (paragraphs 0148-0154).

Documents B2 and B3, according to the Japanese Office Action, each discloses that a reading-out condition is designated, and reading is carried out under the designated condition, and printing is carried out in accordance with the reading-out condition (paragraphs 0023-0024).

As noted, the characterizations of the Japanese Patent Office noted above are based on an English translation obtained by Applicant's representative. The disclosure of these characterizations should not be construed as an admission of or agreement to the opinions expressed in the Japanese Office Action.

English translations of the foreign-language documents are not readily available. However, the absence of such translations does not relieve the PTO from its duty to consider the submitted foreign language documents (37 CFR §1.98 and MPEP §609). English language abstracts are provided herewith.

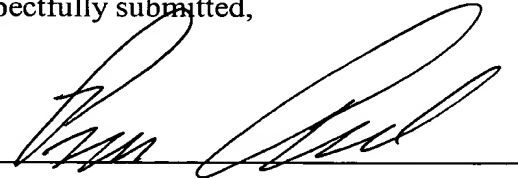
Applicant respectfully requests that any listed document be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO/SB/08 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 CFR §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

Date April 13, 2004

By

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P. Agarwal', is written over a horizontal line.

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